



Committee On Finance

Max Baucus, Ranking Member

NEWS RELEASE

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Statement of Senator Max Baucus (D-MT) Canadian Wheat Board's Trade Practices Affects Farmers

The unfair trading practices of the Canadian Wheat Board (CWB) are harming farmers in my state and across the country, which is why I have kept up a steady drumbeat with the Administration to establish a level playing field and protect our agricultural economy. I applaud the Administration for today's decision to press the World Trade Organization (WTO) to establish a panel that will thoroughly investigate the trade practices of the CWB.

I worked closely with U.S. Trade Representative Robert Zoellick and Commerce Secretary Don Evans last year to have the WTO complaint initiated against the CWB. Consultations held between the U.S. and Canada earlier this year achieved little results, which is why I have continued to urge for the next step toward final resolution of this dispute through the establishment of an oversight panel of independent experts. It is time that we once and for all end Canada's harmful marketing practices and discriminatory wheat trade barriers.